



Washington State Commission on

Asian Pacific American Affairs

Leader in
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E-Legislative Update

April 24, 2011



This is the last week of the legislative session. Sine die, the last day allowed for regular session under our state constitution, falls on April 24th.

You can find more information through our [e-legislative update](#) and website on [events of interest](#). Our e-legislative update provides a general overview highlighting a few bills of interest to the community while our website hosts a more extensive list of bills utilizing a [bill tracking](#) feature for those community members seeking more information. Highlights from the previous week can be viewed on [TVW's](#) Legislative Review.

You may also access our [policy briefing papers](#) which examine issues facing the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

Special Highlights: The 2011 regular legislative session ends this week. The House and Senate have each approved an operating budget for the 2011-13 biennium and are currently negotiating a budget that both legislative bodies can support. The House version would amount to \$4.4 billion in reductions and the Senate version would amount to \$4.8 billion in reductions. Budget proposals can be viewed [here](#). If a budget is not approved by the end of session, the Legislature will need to come back into a special session. The main agenda for special session would most likely be finishing the budget and changes to the workers compensation system.

Details on special session: If two-thirds in the House and Senate vote to do so, the Legislature can call itself into special session. If they go this route, they can limit the scope of the work that they do. During a special session called by the Legislature, a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate can add items to the agenda. If the governor calls the Legislature into special session, she can suggest what they work on but they are not bound to that suggestion. In either case, the special session is limited to 30 days.

Legislative Updates:

As of today, the legislature passed and delivered to the Governor the following bills of interest to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

Highlights in Education:

- [SB 5174](#) - Relating to encouraging instruction in the history of civil rights.
- [HB 1412](#) - Relating to high school mathematics end-of-course assessments.
- [HB 1424](#) - Relating to administrative consistency between conditional scholarship and loan repayment student financial aid programs.

Highlights in Health and Human Services:

- [SB 5020](#) - Relating to protecting consumers by assuring persons using the title of social worker have graduated with a degree in social work from an educational program accredited by the council on social work education.

Highlights in Economic Development:

- [HB 1150](#) - Relating to extending the time in which a small business may correct a violation without a penalty.
- [HB 1303](#) - Relating to the insurance commissioner's authority to review and disapprove rates for certain insurance products.
- [HB 1362](#) - Relating to protecting and assisting homeowners from unnecessary foreclosures.

Highlights in Immigration:

- [SB 5168](#) - Relating to reducing maximum sentences for gross misdemeanors by one day.
- [SB 5482](#) - Relating to authorizing existing funding to house victims of human trafficking and their families.

To find out more information on bills signed by the Governor, click [here](#).

Information is current as of: April 21, 2011.

To find out more information on a particular bill, please visit <http://www.leg.wa.gov>.

CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.

To receive more electronic updates, visit us at <http://www.capaa.wa.gov>. To unsubscribe, [click here](#).